

Additional Programs

Special programs are occasionally offered throughout the summer on a variety of Lake Erie subjects. Topics range from learning to make your own fishing lures to getting up close and personal with some of Lake Erie's native critters.



To see a complete list of activities, visit ohioseagrant.osu.edu/avc.

Private Tours

Teachers and Group Leaders: Bring your group to the Aquatic Visitors Center to learn about the complex Lake Erie ecosystem and current Lake research by getting a first-hand look at live fish on this guided tour of a historic Put-in-Bay fish hatchery.

Tours are available May – October. The cost for private group tours is \$4 per person. Please call to schedule.

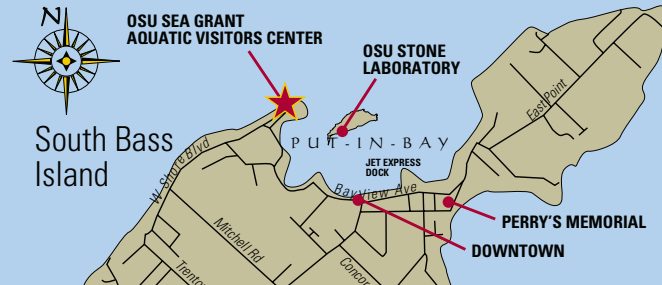
For more information, call Ohio State University's Stone Laboratory office or visit stonelab.osu.edu/tripsandtours.

AVC Adventures

AVC Adventures, half-day field trips at the AVC, are a great way to introduce your group to Lake Erie topics. AVC Adventures are available May through October (Mondays and Tuesdays only in June-August).



AQUATIC VISITORS CENTER



**Open To Public
During the Summer**

Kids Always Fish for Free!

(under 16 only)

Visit ohioseagrant.osu.edu/avc
for specific dates and hours.

Questions?

Contact Stone Lab at stonelab@osu.edu
or 419.285.1800



For more information on Ohio Sea Grant,
visit ohioseagrant.osu.edu

OHSU-B-1505

OHIO SEA GRANT AND STONE LABORATORY

AQUATIC VISITORS CENTER

PUT-IN-BAY, OHIO



ohioseagrant.osu.edu/avc



Fishing Fun

Spark a lifelong love of fishing on the Aquatic Visitors Center fishing pier, where children under age 16 can fish for free!

Kids can borrow fishing gear, learn how to bait a hook, and try out their fishing skills off our 100' pier. They often reel in bluegill, bass and yellow perch, but you never know what might bite! Our trained Ohio State student staff will help them learn the identifying characteristics of our Lake Erie fishes, including invasive species, so that kids can identify their own catches.



Learn more about Lake Erie

by exploring its rich history and experiencing science up close at the Aquatic Visitors Center on Lake Erie's South Bass Island near Put-in-Bay, Ohio.

Inspect Lake Erie's complex ecosystem through hands-on science activities, such as peering through microscopes and identifying the lake's tiniest inhabitants.

Observe live Lake Erie fish species in six 400 – 800 gallon aquaria.

Discover current research being done to protect Lake Erie.

Examine how the fish hatchery operated and see some of the original equipment.

Ask Aquatic Visitors Center experts your Lake Erie questions.



HISTORY

Currently operated by Ohio State University's Ohio Sea Grant in partnership with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR) Division of Wildlife, the Aquatic Visitors Center served as the State Fish Hatchery at Put-in-Bay from 1907 through 1988. In its more than 80 years of operation, the hatchery raised a variety of fish species, including walleye, sauger, whitefish, herring, yellow perch, coho salmon, chinook salmon and steelhead. Hatching jars, raceways and other artifacts from those by-gone days are still on display.

In 1992, ODNR Division of Wildlife converted the hatchery building to the Aquatic Visitors Center — an educational facility to bring history, fishing information and hands-on activities to the public. Ohio Sea Grant took over management of the center in 2009, continuing to teach the next generation about the importance of protecting Lake Erie.

RESEARCH

Ohio Sea Grant and the ODNR Division of Wildlife lead the way on research to solve the most pressing problems facing Lake Erie. Some of this research takes place on-site at the neighboring Stone Laboratory, the nation's oldest biological freshwater field station and The Ohio State University's island campus on Lake Erie. At the Aquatic Visitors Center, guests learn

about current research projects investigating topics like walleye tracking, aquatic invasive species, the Dead Zone and fish biology.

